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INCOMING TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Action

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Control: 2701

Rec'd: January 5, 1963
11:10 AM

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Info FROM: MOSCOW

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 1665, January 5, 2 PM

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January 5 Pravda publishes without comment 146-column-inch Tass despatch from Havana containing what purports to be full text Castro January 2 speech as distributed by Prensa Latina. Assume Department has full text.

Speech is characterized by extremely offensive personal attacks on President Kennedy. Charges of napalm bombing Cuban children from American aircraft, and the like.

While method ostensibly indirect, Pravda stamp of approval and wide distribution such low attack on President is marked departure from previous restraint as regards personalities and comparable to offensive tone Khrushchev recent letter to Adenauer. Recommend this action be taken note of by Department. If considered undesirable dignify and advertise Castro's insults by public statement Department spokesman, perhaps could be called attention appropriate journalists on background basis.

Embassy further recommends VOA carefully analyze Castro speech and present correct version of facts as required to Soviet audience.

KOHLER

MCA

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DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, EXEC. 300, 301, 302, 303 AND 304

Department of State (44-77-1)
BY my NARS. DATE 8/10/77